

December 2012

Vol. 14, No. 12

<http://www.tgcfersoc.org>

**Holiday Party: Sunday, December 9, at 1:00 PM – Darlene Morris’ Home,  
29902 Part Place Dr., Tomball, TX 77377 – Map included**

**A message from our President:**

Hi Everyone,

Here we are in the last month of 2012. This year has made a lot of people do some soul searching and reflecting, including me. We have lost valued friends and family but also have made some new friends, too. Two sides to every coin I guess, with winter comes the spring, so goes our heartache and our joy. We can only look back to learn and reminisce but look ahead to what the New Year will bring and how we will move forward a stronger person and Society.

I have so many members to thank for all their efforts over the past year(s) that I don't know where to start. First, I have to thank our outgoing Officers, Terri and Cherie, and Board Member-at-Large, Lu Lu, who have served four consecutive terms. That is a quite a feat and I know everyone in the Society would like to thank you for your unconditional service to our Society! Also, I want to thank our other outgoing Board Member-at-Large, Marcia, for her much appreciated service in that position this past year.

Thank you to our nominating committee for presenting a slate of officers for 2013. Many thanks go out to Jessica for taking on the VP job for one more year (her fourth and last per the bylaws). Jessica has done a great job making sure we have had speakers/classes and field trips all planned out for the year. I know she would appreciate your ideas for future meeting topics. We will be looking for a member who would like to work with Jessica this year and learn the ropes, so to speak, of the VP job.

Thank you Mary, Frank, and Malcolm for agreeing to accept the positions of Treasurer, Secretary, and Board Member-at-Large, respectively. And on a personal note, I would like to thank you all for asking me to be your President for another year. It is an honor.

Joan, what can I say? What a wonderful meeting. Thank you so much! The program on fern structure, complete with handouts and dissecting microscopes, made this a very fun and informative meeting. A botany lesson without a test, that's my kind of Science. Learning the different terminology that is used in the industry helps us identify those ferns we acquire that have no name tags. I know I learned a lot from selecting plant material for the program that would help us differentiate between ferns. It made me stop and study and for that, I have to say thank you for my new discoveries and new knowledge! We all learn with every program.

The refreshments have been great all year. Everyone has really stepped up and shared in bringing. And for those who bring something even though they haven't signed up, many thanks. It does not go unnoticed. We will have a new Hospitality Chair with the New Year, so I know they will appreciate us continuing as we have this year... lots of food and drink.

Please renew your membership if you have not done so already. It is that time again.

Now for the "PARTY"! The food list went around at the November meeting. The meat is covered. We voted to move the party up a week to the 9th of December at 1PM (the 2nd Sunday). Maps and directions to Darlene Morris' home are at the end of the newsletter. We will be having a gift exchange again this year for those who want to participate. The gift should be fern/plant related with a value of \$10-\$20 dollars. Make your gift something you would like to receive. Everyone who brings a gift will draw a number to determine the order in which the gifts will be selected. Let's have a great and exciting exchange that everyone will love.

Take care and hope to see you Sunday the 9th,

*Darla*



**Up and Coming Attractions:**

**Dec 9:** "Holiday Party & Gift Exchange"  
**1 PM** at the home of Darlene Morris

Submitted by: Jessica Sheldon, Vice President



## 2012 Officers and Committees:

President:	Darla Harris
Vice President:	Jessica Sheldon
Secretary:	Cherie Lee
Treasurer:	Terri Dolney
Board Members-at-Large:	Marcia Livingston, Donna McGraw, and Lulu Leonard
Membership Chair:	Noreen Tolman
Ways and Means:	Ted Richardson
Special Projects:	Larry Rucker
Web Master:	Malcolm McCorquodale
Newsletter:	Cherie Lee
Library:	Frank Lee
Raffles:	Larry Rucker
Spore Exchange:	Patrick Hudnall
Society Store:	Larry Rucker
Hospitality:	Jeanie Richardson
Welcoming at Door:	Beth Ayer and Marcia Livingston



### Refreshments

Refreshments for November were generously furnished by:

Drinks:	Lu Lu Leonard
Savory:	Noreen Tolman
Veggies:	Jessica Sheldon
Desserts:	Larry Rucker & Terri Dolney
Service ware:	Cherie Lee

**December will be our Holiday Party. Cherie Lee is organizing the feast so please let her know what delectable dish you plan to bring.**

Refreshments for January will be generously furnished by:

Drinks:	Terri Dolney
Savory:	Larry Rucker & Faye Stansberry
Veggies:	Mary McConnell
Fruits:	Betty Mooney
Desserts:	Cherie Lee
Service ware:	Cherie Lee

Please let Cherie Lee know if you can help with the refreshments for future months. Email to: [Cherie.d.lee@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Cherie.d.lee@sbcglobal.net). Come out and enjoy some really delicious food!



### 2013 Dues:

2013 dues are now being accepted. Please complete the membership form included with your Newsletter or with your email Newsletter notice and return it with your payment to our Treasurer Terri Dolney or our Membership Chair Noreen Tolman at our next meeting or mail it to:

Noreen Tolman  
15915 Pasadero  
Houston, TX 77083

#### TGCFS dues amounts:

Individual:	\$10.00
Family:	\$15.00
Student:	\$ 5.00

Please make your checks payable to Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society or simply TGCFS.



### Need Supplies?

Larry Rucker will be organizing an order of supplies through the Society Store so take an inventory, make your shopping (wish) list, and get with Larry at the next meeting.



### December Book Review

“Gardening with Nature in Texas”  
by Karen M. Breneman

This book provides the basic principles to garden successfully, provide habitat for wildlife, reduce pollution of air and water, and improve quality of life. You will learn about native plants and their importance to conservation of natural resources and wildlife, working with nature to reduce watering requirements and pesticide usage while maintaining a landscape, gardening in the shade, alternatives to turf grass, producing healthy vegetables, and creating a water feature and surrounding habitat to promote wildlife. Following the suggestions outlined in this book will not only promote colorful flowers and healthy plants, but also reward the gardener with beautiful butterflies, hummingbirds, and other desirable wildlife.

Submitted by: Frank Lee



**Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society  
General Meeting - November 18, 2012**

A regular monthly meeting was held at the Houston Garden Center, Houston, Texas. The meeting commenced at 2:05 PM with President, Darla Harris calling the meeting to order.

**General:** Darla announced that due to a conflict, Darlene Morris had requested that the Holiday Party at her home be moved forward by one week to Sunday December 9<sup>th</sup>. Frank Lee motioned that the Party be moved to the earlier date. Terri Dolney seconded and the membership approved.

Mary McConnell, Nominating Committee Chair, announced the 2013 slate of officers proposed by the nominating committee. They are as follows:

President	Darla Harris
Vice President	Jessica Sheldon
Treasurer	Mary McConnell
Secretary	Frank Lee
Board Members-at-Large	Donna McGraw Malcolm McCorquodale Larry Rucker

Terri Dolney moved to accept the nominees by acclamation. Frank Lee seconded and members present voted to accept the nominations.

Darla mentioned that the positions of Hospitality and Membership Chair were still open and anyone interested should contact her.

Martha Burg relayed what she had learned concerning the fate of the Garden Center. The current plan is to tear down the building starting the end of April providing the additional funds (\$17M raised out of the required \$30M so far) have been raised. A new building with only one main room with limited kitchen capabilities is planned. Alternative locations to hold club meetings are being sought for the interim time.

**Library:** Chair Frank Lee reminded all that the Library was open for checking out books and to please return books at the next meeting. Also, if there is a specific book you are interested in checking out, please let him know prior to the meeting so he can make sure to bring the book. Not all library books are brought to every meeting.

**Hospitality:** Substitute Chair Cherie Lee reminded everyone to please let her know what they planned to bring for the Holiday Party feast. Also, please consider signing up to bring refreshments for the January meeting.

**Program:** Building on last month's program on "Electronic Monographs" by Alejandra Vasco, assistant to Robinn Moran from New York Botanical Garden, our own Joan Hudson presented a very interesting and informative talk on various aspects of ferns used for identification including fern frond complexity, spore types and dispersal methods, and rhizomes. She also brought ten microscopes for everyone to examine the spores, scales, hairs, etc. in more detail.

**Plant Raffle:** Larry Rucker ran the plant raffle with many plants finding new homes.

**Attendance:** 22 Members  
Meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM.

Submitted by: Cherie Lee, Secretary

**Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society  
Board of Directors Meeting - November 18, 2012**

Meeting held at the Houston Garden Center, Houston, Texas with President Darla Harris presiding and calling the meeting to order at 4:15 PM.

**Board Members Present:** Darla Harris – President  
Jessica Sheldon - VP  
Cherie Lee – Secretary  
Terri Dolney – Treasurer

**Future Board Members Present:** Frank Lee  
Mary McConnell  
Malcolm McCorquodale  
Larry Rucker

Discussion was held concerning smooth transition of Treasury and Secretary positions to new elected officers. The need to add Darla Harris and Mary McConnell to the bank account was discussed. Also, the paperwork from Federal government on tax exceptions needs to be located.

Next board meeting will be held in January, date and time to be determined.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 PM.

Submitted by: Cherie Lee, Secretary



**Library**

We encourage you to take advantage of the great resource of information available in our library. At each meeting there are take-home sheets that contain a brief review of available books. Also at each meeting, there is a wide variety of books and videos available for immediate checkout.

Don't forget to visit our web site (see link in header, page 1) and click on **Library** to see the current list of books available. There you will see some pictures of the books we have and links to reviews at Amazon or elsewhere. If there is a particular book you would like to check out at the meeting, please contact Frank Lee at [f.a.lee@sbcglobal.net](mailto:f.a.lee@sbcglobal.net) or 281-999-8368 prior to the meeting to make sure it will be available.



**Editor's Comments:**

As most of you are aware, the Newsletter is posted on the TGCFs website at the same time as it is mailed out to the members. In an effort to save money on mailings, it has been suggested that email notification be sent that the Newsletter has been posted on the website instead of mailing the Newsletter. Members can then visit the website to view the Newsletter and print it for themselves if they wish. **If you have not done so already, please let me know if you are willing to accept the email notification and forgo the mailed Newsletter.** You can contact me by calling 281-999-8368, emailing [cherie.d.lee@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cherie.d.lee@sbcglobal.net), or let me know at the next meeting. If I don't hear from you, you will continue to receive the Newsletter as usual. Thanks.

**Deadline for the January Newsletter is January 4, 2013.**

Cherie Lee, Editor, *TGCFs Newsletter*



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## Upcoming Events in the Houston Area:

If you have the time and would like to expand your horticultural activities, take note of the following announcements.

**Bromeliad Society/Houston Inc.**  
[www.bromeliadsocietyhouston.org](http://www.bromeliadsocietyhouston.org)

Regular meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month at 7:30 PM at the Houston Garden Center.

Next regular meeting is January 15, 2013

**The Houston Orchid Society, Inc.**  
[www.houstonorchidsociety.org](http://www.houstonorchidsociety.org)

Regular meetings are held the first Thursday of every month at 7:30 PM at the Houston Garden Center.

Next regular meeting is January 3, 2013.

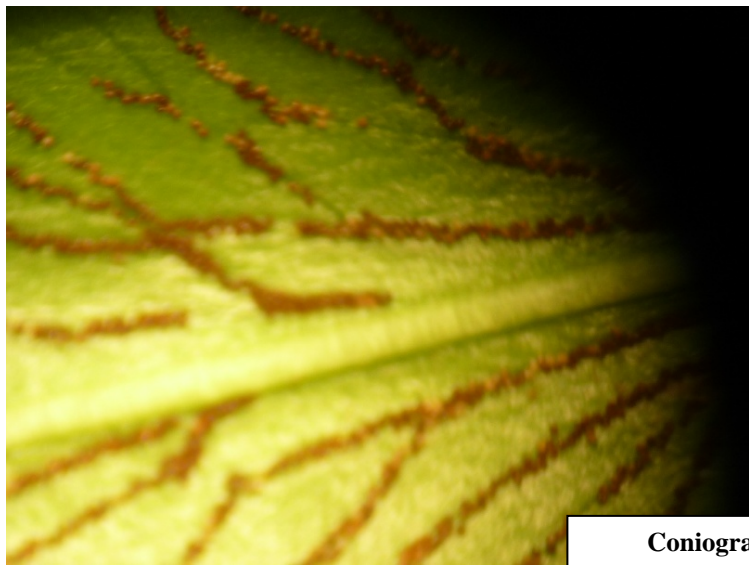
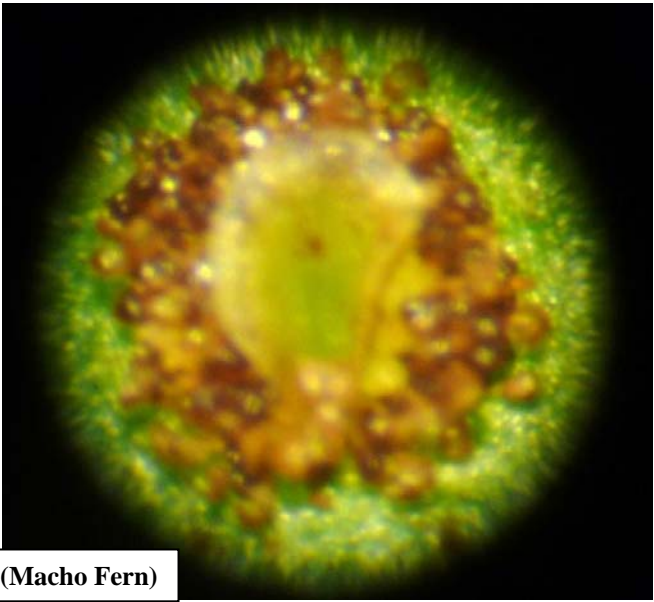
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## “Fern Structure and Terminology” by Joan Hudson





**Nephrolepis biserrata (Macho Fern)**



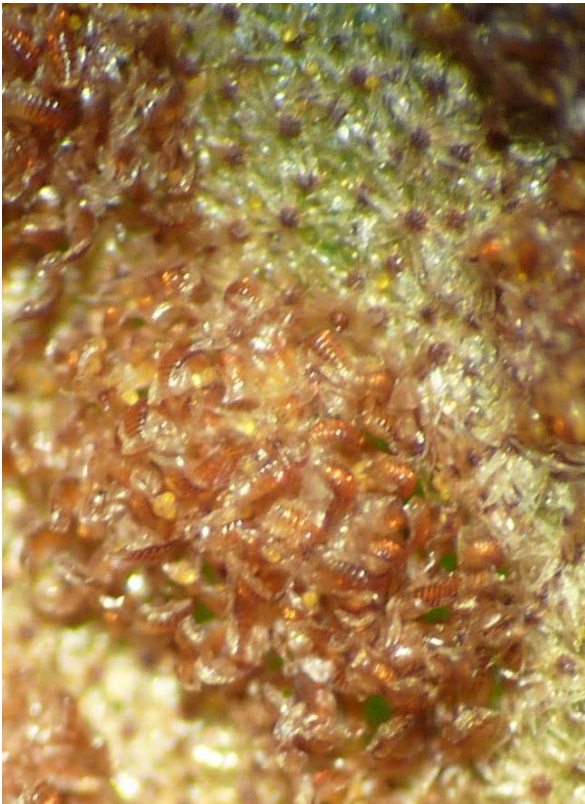
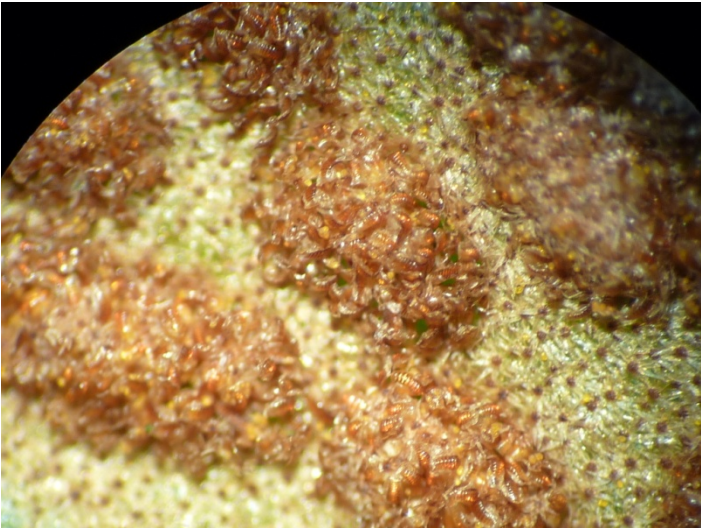
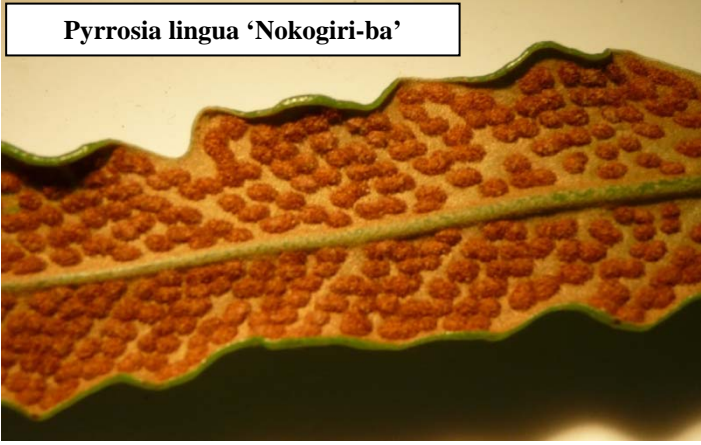
**Coniogramme intermedia**



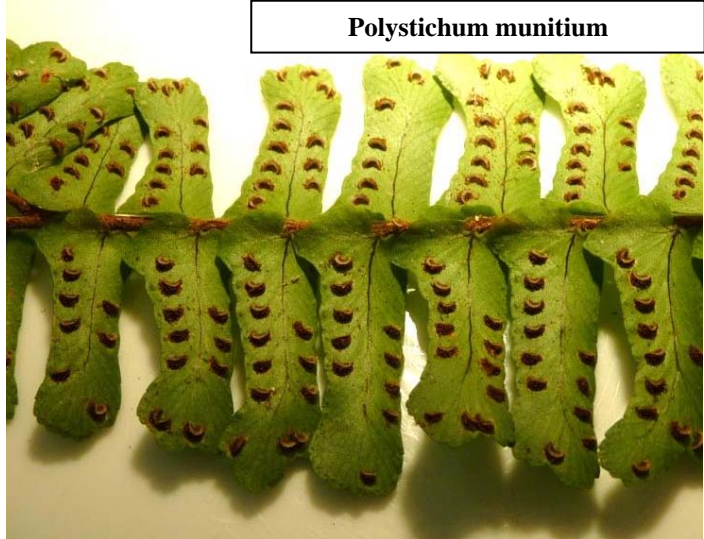
**Platycerium**



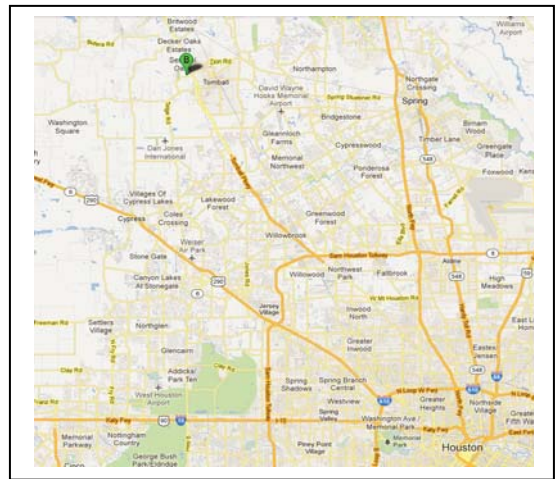
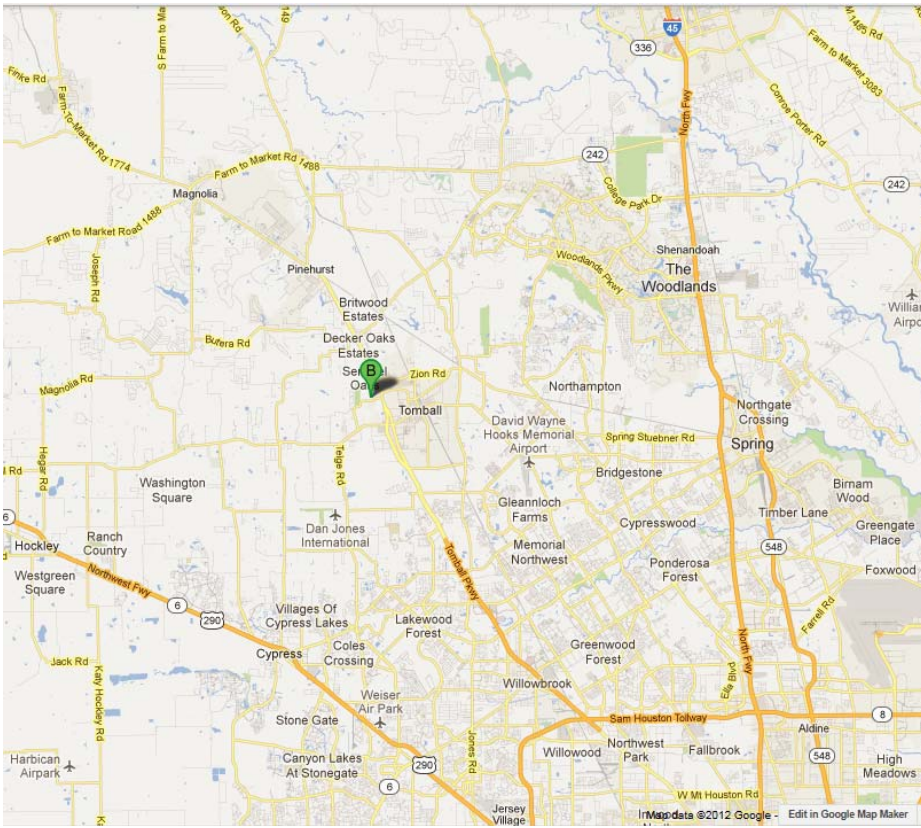
*Pyrrosia lingua* 'Nokogiri-ba'



*Polystichum munitium*



**Holiday Party – December 9<sup>th</sup> at 1 PM**  
**Darlene Morris' Home**  
**29902 Park Place Dr., Tomball, Texas 77377**  
**Home phone: 281-351-8613 Cell phone: 713-724-2892**



If going north on 249, stay left on the bypass when entering Tomball. Once over the overpass, turn left on Brown Road at the first light. Turn right on Park Place Drive and Darlene's house is the second house on the right side. There are two driveways. Park in either driveway or in front of house on Park Place Drive.

